



Newark Community Project for People With A.I.D.S.

201) 824-5900
201) 624-7977 (Fax)

'Let us fight the virus, not each other.'

P. O. BOX 1241
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07101

Mr. Don Hall
People Taking Action
Against AIDS
Post Office Box 378
Bellport, New York 11713

Dear Mr. Hall:

I am writing in response to a notice contained in 'AIDS Treatment News' #104 regarding the possibility of start-up grants for newly-formed groups offering care and support to People With AIDS.

The Newark Community Project for People With AIDS (NCP for PWAs) only recently received 501 (c) 3 tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service. The only organization based in Newark exclusively devoted to combating the AIDS epidemic in our City, our Mission Statement commits our membership to:

1. Foster the Humane Care and Treatment of People With AIDS;
2. Promote education/prevention efforts to curtail the spread of the HIV infection among At-Risk groups, especially adolescents;
3. Disseminate up-to-date and accurate information to the community-at-large; and
4. Encourage consultation, cooperation, and coordination of efforts among all seriously committed to combating the spread of the epidemic in Newark and it's environs.

Thus far, we have been reasonably successful with initial efforts in the latter two objectives. Our newsletter, 'Information Update' (copy enclosed), is distributed to more than 700 community activists, health care providers, religious entities, and those affected or afflicted by AIDS.

Meanwhile, we have inaugurated the Newark AIDS Task Force in conjunction with the Minority Health Institute of the University of Medicine & Dentistry and the City Medical Directors Office. The Task Force and it's seven component committees are charged with developing an Action Agenda for Newark after assessing the availability of services currently provided by a myriad of health and human services agencies. NCP for PWAs provides staff assistance to the project from mini-grants provided by the Community Foundation of N.J./AIDS Partnership.

While we have received donations from our members and friends, we are constantly operating at a deficit.

Our immediate concern right now is to establish a limited fund to provide direct entitlements to PWAs and their families. We are continually asked for direct assistance to provide telephone service, rental down payments, transportation, air conditioning, radios, and similar amenities for patients in or out of the hospital. We have established a procedure (in consultation with our pro bono attorney) to provide such entitlements in an efficient and orderly manner.

While it is true that Newark ranks fourth among all major cities in per capita AIDS cases as reported by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, it is unfortunately also true that this City is largely overlooked by most philanthropic sources. Moreover, NCP for PWAS has never received any governmental grants to assist in providing services in a coordinated fashion.

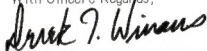
Thus, we subsist on volunteer efforts, mini-grants from two local foundations, and donations from our members.

But we believe the need for the entitlement program is so great that we must reach out and seek funds from other sources. No one else is providing this service, but it is essential.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (201) 824-5900, ext. 227, or (201) 483-5479 anytime.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

With Sincere Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Derek T. Winans". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Derek T. Winans
Chairperson

c.c. N.C.P. Board of Trustees
George Hanley, Esq.